

Message Text

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63

ORIGIN NEA-10

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S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

NEA/AR - MR. BULLEN

NEA/ARP - MR. AHERNE

AF/P - MR. POPE

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R 150113Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

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AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
NOVEMBER 14, 1975:

Q. COULD YOU COMMENT ON THE REPORTED DECISION OF ARAB
BOYCOTT OF BLACKLIST SHIPS GOING THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL
WITH ISRAELI CARGOES?

A. FRANKLY, ON THIS I HAVD SOME GUIDANCE HERE. THE
REPORTS THAT I HAVE SEEN ON IT ARE NOT VERY CLEAR HERE AT
ALL, SO I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY DEFINITIVE COMMENT ON IT AT
THIS POINT. IF I CAN GET A CLEARER IDEA OF JUST WHAT
HAS BEEN SAID, BECAUSE THERE ARE CONFLICTING REPORTS--
I REALLY CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING.

Q. WHAT ARE THE CONFLICTING REPORTS? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
I THOUGHT THE REGIONAL BOYCOTT OFFICE SAID THAT ANY SHIPS
CARRYING ISRAELI CARGO THROUGH THE CANAL WOULD BE BOY-
COTTED; THEY WERE NOT TO LAND IN ARAB PORTS AND THAT SORT
OF THING.

A. WELL, IT ISN'T QUITE AS CLEAR AS THAT ACCORDING TO
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MY GUIDANCE HERE BECAUSE, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IF A SHIP
GOES THROUGH THE CANAL AND DOESN'T STOP IN A PORT THEN
MAYBE IT'S EFFECTIVE, MAYBE IT ISN'T EFFECTIVE' IF IT
STOPS AT A PORT MAYBE IT'S EFFECTIVE. WE REALLY HAVE NOT
HAD ANY DEFINITE INFORMATION FROM OUR POSTS ON THIS.
I JUST OBVIOUSLY FEEL IT WOULD BE IMPRUDENT FOR ME TO
COMMENT UNTIL WE CAN GET A LITTLE CLEARER IDEA FROM OUR
POSTS ABROAD, THE CONCERNED POSTS ABROAD--PARTICULARLY IN

CAIRO I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY.

Q. MR. ANDERSON, HAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT DECIDED WHAT IT WILL DO WITH COUNTRIES THAT VOTED FOR THE RESOLUTION ABOUT ZIONISM AND RACISM? THERE WERE SOME SUGGESTIONS AT THE WHITE HOUSE THAT SOME MEASURES WOULD -- THE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE VOTED FOR THE RESOLUTION -- WOULD ENCOUNTER A DIFFERENT KIND OF TREATMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES. IS THIS BEING STUDIED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT? HAS ANY DECISION BEEN MADE ABOUT IT?

A. THE VERY BRIEF ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION IS NO, NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN. THE SECRETARY ADDRESSED THIS IN PITTSBURGH. IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IT -- I'M NOT SURE WHETHER YOU PERSONALLY HAVE SEEN THE TRANSCRIPT OF HIS PRESS CONFERENCE -- YOU MIGHT WANT TO GET IT. BUT I CAN'T TAKE YOU BEYOND WHAT HE SAID. THIS IS BEING LOOKED INTO; NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Q. IS THERE INDICATION FOR THE UNITED STATES TO PURSUE THE MATTER OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ABOUT AMNESTY OF POLITICAL PRISONERS? DOES THE UNITED STATES REALLY MEAN BUSINESS ABOUT IT?

A. CERTAINLY WE MEAN BUSINESS OR WE WOULDN'T HAVE PRESENTED IT TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE TWO OR THREE DAYS AGO.

Q. ON THE ZIONIST RESOLUTION, SOME ISRAELI SPOKESMEN HAVE BEEN CONNECTING YESTERDAY'S BOMB EXPLOSION IN ZION SQUARE WITH THE RESOLUTION. WOULD THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MADE SUCH A CONNECTION?

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A. I CAN'T, I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE SUCH A CONNECTION. I DON'T KNOW -- SPECIFICALLY WE DON'T KNOW WHO DID IT.

Q. FATAH HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

A. WELL, YOU KNOW, LOTS OF PEOPLE -- MAYBE THEY DID IT. I DON'T KNOW. THIS IS SOMETHING OBVIOUSLY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS LOOING INTO. WE DON'T HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON WHO DID THIS TERRIBLE ACT AT ALL. SO I JUST CAN'T MAKE THAT DIRECT CONNECTION.

Q. COULD YOU COMMENT ON THE ACT ITSELF?

A. YES, I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON THAT, IF I MAY--THEY

HAVE ME SO MANY PAPERS HERE TODAY--BECAUSE I HAVE A STATEMENT ON THIS IF I CAN FIND IT WHICH I DO NOT WISH TO PARAPHRASE.

"WE CONDEMN AND DEPLORE THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE, WHICH RESULTED IN DEATH AND INJURY TO INNOCENT PERSONS, WHICH OCCURRED IN JERUSALEM YESTERDAY, AND WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND SHARE THEIR REVULSION AT THIS BRUTAL ACT."

Q. ON THE ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTION, HAS THERE BEEN AN OFFICE ASSIGNED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING PUNITIVE MEASURES OR ANY OTHER FORM OF RESPONSE CONCERNING THEIR VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION?

A. LET ME CHECK TO SEE IF A SPECIAL OFFICE HAS BEEN SET UP. THIS WOULD BE A FUNCTION, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME, OF THE BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS. BUT LET ME CHECK TO SEE IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY SPECIFIC OFFICE, TEMPORARY OR OTHERWISE, THAT MAY HAVE BEEN SET UP. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'S NECESSARY TO DO THAT. IT MAY BE.

Q. IS THERE A U.S. REPLY YET TO THE SOVIET NOTE ON THE GENEVA CONFERENCE?

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A. NO, THERE IS NOT A REPLY AS YET. IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, BERNIE, THE SECRETARY INDICATED THAT WE ARE STUDYING THE SOVIET NOTE, AND WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION, OBVIOUSLY, WITH THE INTERESTED PARTIES. I WOULD NOT EXPECT A RESPONSE TO THE SOVIET NOTE TO BE FORWARDED UNTIL WE HAVE HAD AT LEAST SOME CONVERSATIONS WITH THE INTERESTED PARTIES.

Q. HOW LONG COULD IT TAKE?

A. I CAN'T GUESS THAT ONE. I CAN'T PREDICT THAT ONE.

Q. IS AMBASSADOR MURPHY STILL IN WASHINGTON, OR HAS HE GONE BACK TO DAMASCUS?

A. I SAW DICK MURPHY LAST NIGHT COMING INTO THE DEPARTMENT AT ABOUT A QUARTER OF SEVEN. I DID NOT CHECK THIS MORNING TO SEE WHETHER HE LEFT. MY UNDERSTANDING IS HE IS STILL HERE, BUT IF I AM WRONG I'LL LET YOU KNOW.

KISSINGER

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